Event Vetting

Government employees, particularly high-level officials like United States Attorneys, are subject to ethical restrictions governing the types of events they may attend. Some restrictions relate to benefits, including luncheons, dinners, awards, and tokens of appreciation they may accept. Other restrictions relate, among other things, to participation in events that are sponsored by persons who do business with or lobby the Government; that have a fundraising component; where it may appear that official attendance is being used to promote the event or the sponsor; or where elected officials may be in attendance. To assist us in vetting compliance with government ethical restrictions, we would appreciate it if you could provide the following information. If you do not have specific information for each response, please provide such general or descriptive information as you currently have. Please do not hesitate to call the Office's Government Ethics Advisor, (b)(6), (b)(7)c , at (b)(6), (b)(7)c or e-mail him at (b)(6), (b)(7)c to discuss this.

1. Name, date and time, and location of event.
   Title: RPA Assembly
   Subtitle: Tough Decisions for the Future of the New York Metropolitan Region
   Date: Friday, April 24, 2015
   Time: 8 AM to 4 PM
   Location: The Waldorf-Astoria, 301 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10002

2. Format of event (*e.g.*, cocktails; presentations; speeches; and/or meal).
   All-day event, including keynote presentations, breakout sessions, lunch, and cocktail reception

3. Estimated cost per attendee of event.
   $256 per attendee (based on cost of 2014 RPA Assembly)

4. Are any attendees being charged to attend the event? **Yes**

   a. If so, who (in general) is being offered free attendance, and who is expected to pay?
      Speakers, elected officials, and select community and civic partners are being offered free attendance. Government and non-profit employees and students are offered a discounted ticket. Other attendees are expected to pay the full-price ticket, or to pay for a no-lunch ticket available at a discounted rate. Members of the media also are given free attendance.

5. Name of entity extending the invitation and link to web site (if any).
   Regional Plan Association (RPA) www.rpa.org

   a. Does the entity extending the invitation engage in lobbying?
      Yes

6. Sponsor of event if different from above. **DTZ**

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a. Does the sponsor of the event engage in lobbying? **Yes**

7. Names of additional entities that will be recognized for sponsorship or support of the event.
   Siemens, Heidrick & Struggles

8. How many persons are expected to attend?
   1,000

9. Demographics of expected attendees (*e.g.*, lawyers; law enforcement; business leaders; students; etc.)
   Public officials, business leaders, representatives from nonprofit and civic groups, community partners, government employees, students, RPA board members.

10. Are any elected officials expected to attend and, if so, what is their expected role?
    Yes, as attendees and speakers.

11. Is there a fundraising component to the event? (*e.g.*, program advertisements; dinner ticket price; silent auction)? If so, please describe.[1]
    Yes. Program advertisements, sponsorships for overall Assembly and for smaller sessions.

12. Expected role of U.S. Attorney (*e.g.*, simple attendance; remarks; speech)
    Keynote speech during the luncheon program.

13. If the U.S. Attorney is being honored: **N/A**

    a. What are the criteria your organization applies to determine who should be honored for this specific award?
       N/A

    b. What is the internal process by which your organization selects potential honorees?

[1] For events that involve any fundraising leading up to or during the event: The United States Attorney may not participate in any active fundraising activity with respect to the event. Nor may the U.S. Attorney allow his name, position, or title to be used for any fundraising activity for your organization. If applicable, you may list his name as an awardee and/or speaker on the program and on invitations issued not more than 30 days prior to the event, along with other information about the program. He may not be listed on any "save the date" notices. Failure to comply with these limitations may preclude the U.S. Attorney from appearing at the event. If the U.S. Attorney is giving an official speech, he may be seated and have photos taken as appropriate for a speaker at the event, but you may not use his photo in connection with any other fundraising efforts.

N/A

c. For what specific public service or achievement do you wish to honor the U.S. Attorney?
N/A

d. Did any of the accomplishments of the U.S. Attorney which you wish to honor directly affect the organization or its members? (Describe.)
N/A

e. Do any of the board members or host committee or senior staff have any matters pending before or involving the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York?
N/A

f. Please provide a description and the value of any award item (if the award item is a plaque, certificate or trophy of little intrinsic value, you may so indicate).
N/A

g. Who else is expected to be honored at the event?
N/A

14. If the U.S. Attorney is making a presentation, who else is expected to be making a presentation/be on a panel?

Anthony Shorris, First Deputy Mayor of New York City, will speak on a separate panel. Other speakers TBD

a. Will the U.S. Attorney be presented with a token or memento in appreciation for his presentation?
   i. **_X__** Nothing
   ii. ___ Plaque or other memento of little intrinsic value
   iii. ___ Other. Please describe, including its value.

15. Describe any special seating arrangements for U.S. Attorney, *e.g.*, dais, general seating (depending on the nature of the event, the U.S. Attorney may or may not be able to accept "dais" seating.)
General seating

16. Promotion of the event: please provide a copy of or link to the invitation/promotional material for the event (or if not available, for the prior year's event).

Event website: http://assembly.rpa.org